

C2
said web assembly includes an array of posts extending upwardly from said center sill and has a lower region adjacent to said decking structure and an upper region distant therefrom;

said car has an upper beam assembly, said upper beam assembly including said top truss and a beam stem, said top truss being mounted upon said beam stem and said beam stem being mounted to said upper region of said web assembly; and
said beam stem includes at least one longitudinally extending skirt against which lading can be placed.

C3
5. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~ wherein said medial decking portion lying between said two trucks is at least 28' - 0" long.

6. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~ wherein said medial decking portion lying between said two trucks is at least 40' - 0" long.

C4
7. (Twice Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim 2 wherein, when loaded with lumber having a density of up to 1740 lbs. per 1000 board feet, said center beam rail road car has a center of gravity falling within a range whose upper limit is 98 inches above Top of Rail.

C5
8. (Amended) The center beam car of claim ~~23~~ wherein said end decking portions and said medial decking portion each have a load bearing interface, and the load bearing interface of said end decking portions is stepped upwardly relative to the load bearing interface of said medial decking portion a distance of at least 30 inches.

C6
9. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~ wherein:
said rail road car has a pair of side sills extending along said deck structure;
said side sills each have a medial side sill portion mounted to said medial decking portion, said medial side sill portion having a first depth of section;
said side sills each have end side sill portions mounted to said end decking structures, said end side sill portions having a second depth of section; and
said first depth of section is less than said second depth of section.

10
11
12. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~ wherein:
said end decking portions include lading support structure mounted thereon defining an end section lading interface; and said end section lading interface lies at a height greater than 42 inches above Top of Rail.

C⁷
13. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~¹¹ wherein:

said rail road car has a pair of side sills extending along said deck structure;
said side sills each have a medial side sill portion mounted to said medial decking portion, said medial side sill portion having a first depth of section;
said side sills each have end side sill portions mounted to said end decking structures, said end side sill portions having a second depth of section; and
~~said first depth of section is less than said second depth of section.~~

C⁸
14. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~¹² wherein:

said car has a pair of side sills extending along said deck structure;
said side sills each have a side sill medial portion mounted to said medial decking portion, said medial side sill portion having a first depth of section;
said side sills each have side sill end portions mounted to said end decking structures, said end side sill portions having a second depth of section;
each of said side sills has a knee joining said side sill medial portion to each of said side sill end portions;
each said knee has a longitudinally inboard flange, a longitudinally outboard flange, and webbing extending therebetween;
said longitudinally outboard flange has a lower extremity and an upper extremity; and
said lower extremity lies at a longitudinally inboard station relative to said upper extremity.

C⁹
16. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~¹³ wherein said medial decking portion has at least one lading securement apparatus mounted to said medial portion side sill web.

C¹⁰
17. (Twice Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~23~~¹⁴ wherein:

said rail road car has a first height, said first height being a load limit height measured upwardly from said medial decking portion to said top truss assembly,
said rail road car has a second height measured upwardly from said medial decking portion, said second height being a nominal load height, said second height being the largest integer multiple of 33 inches that is less than said first height; and
said web assembly has at least one skirt member against which loads placed laterally outward thereof can bear, said skirt member extending between a third height and a fourth height, said third and fourth heights straddling said second height.

C¹¹
18. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~17~~¹⁵ wherein the web assembly includes an array of spaced apart posts mounted at intervals along the longitudinal centerline of

42

0

C11
Cant
the rail road car, said array extends upwardly of said deck structure, and said skirt extends a longitudinal distance corresponding to at least one of said intervals.

14
15
15. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~14~~ wherein said third height is at least as great as said first height, and said fourth height is at least 6 inches below said second height.

C12
22
30. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim ~~22~~ wherein said top truss is mounted at a height exceeding AAR Plate C.
